

CLAIMS

1. An actuator comprising:

5 a columnar magnetostrictor one end of which is defined as a fixed end and an other end of which is defined as a free end to expand and contract along an axial direction;

a magnetic field generator for generating a magnetic field to expand and contract the columnar magnetostrictor by a drive current; and

10 an elastic member disposed on at least one end face of the columnar magnetostrictor,

the actuator being arranged to be able to actuate an object with expansion and contraction of the columnar magnetostrictor.

15 2. The actuator according to Claim 1, wherein the elastic member is disposed on each of two end faces of the columnar magnetostrictor.